

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-18, 20 and 30-41 are cancelled.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A method of isolating a stem cell from a pancreatic islet of Langerhans, comprising the steps of:

(a) removing a pancreatic islet from a donor;

(b) culturing cells from the pancreatic islet under conditions wherein said cultured cells comprise nestin-positive cells which have migrated from said islet;

(c) and selecting said nestin-positive cells from the culture.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 comprising the additional step of:

(d) expanding the nestin-positive cells by treatment with an agent selected from the group consisting of EGF, bFGF-2, high glucose, KGF, HGF/SF, GLP-1, exendin-4, IDX-1, a nucleic acid molecule encoding IDX-1, betacellulin, activin A, TGF- β , and combinations thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing the differentiation of an isolated nestin-positive pancreatic stem cell into a pancreatic progenitor cell, comprising the step of:

treating a nestin-positive pancreatic stem cell with an agent selected from the group consisting of EGF, bFGF-2, high glucose, KGF, HGF/SF, IDX-1, a nucleic acid molecule encoding IDX-1, GLP-1, exendin-4, betacellulin, activin A, TGF- β , and combinations thereof, whereby the stem cell subsequently differentiates into a pancreatic progenitor cell.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the pancreatic progenitor cell subsequently forms pseudo-islet like aggregates.

24. (Original) An isolated, nestin-positive human pancreatic or liver stem cell that is not a neural stem cell.

25. (Original) The isolated stem cell of claim 24 that differentiates to form insulin-producing beta cells.

26. (Original) The isolated stem cell of claim 24 that differentiates to form glucagon-producing alpha cells.

27. (Original) The isolated stem cell of claim 24 that differentiates to form pseudo-islet like aggregates.

28. (Original) The isolated stem cell of claim 24 that differentiates to form hepatocytes.

29. (Original) The isolated stem cell of claim 24 that does not express class I MHC antigens.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said migrated cells from step b form a monolayer.

43. (Currently Amended) A method of isolating a stem cell from a pancreatic islet of Langerhans, comprising the steps of:

(a) removing a pancreatic islet from a donor;

(b) culturing cells from the pancreatic islet in a first vessel coated with concanavalin A to separate concanavalin A adherent and non-adherent cells;

(c) transferring said non-adherent cells from step (b) to a second vessel not coated with concanavalin A;

(d) culturing cells from step (c) in said second vessel to produce a cell culture;

(e) selecting a nestin-positive cell from step (d) to produce an isolated stem cell.

44. (Currently Amended) The isolated nestin-positive [human] pancreatic stem cell, wherein said stem cell is isolated by the method of claim 19 or claim 43.